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BREAD HOARDING, LIVESTOCK FODDER SHORTAGE IN HUNGARY

Comment: The acuteness of the grain and fodder shortage in Hungary is highlighted by the following two articles which appeared in Szabad Nep on 26 and 27 January 1953, respectively. The first article makes an issue of the fact that out-of-town workers have been taking home one or two loaves of bread every night and claims that these workers are the cat's-paw of the kulaks. The second article deals with animal husbandry and stresses the necessity of preserving livestock despite the shortage of fodder. This article was featured on the front page of Szabad Nep and reprinted in Nepzava, Magyar Nemzet, and Esti Budapest.

SCORE READ BOARDING -- Budapest, Szabad Nep, 26 Jan 53

More and more frequently, kulaks, and similar speculators are being caught flooding bread brought from the cities to the hogs and poultry. Such cases have been particularly prevalent in the past few weeks. A list of the bread hoarders follows.⁷ These hoarders aim to rob the workers of their daily bread and to speculate with their corn and flour at the same time. Such individuals deserve severest punishment.

The attempts of the kulaks and speculators to undermine the national economy are furthered by the tolerance of workers who watch the hoarding without trying to stop it. In some cases, these workers actually assist the enemy. It has frequently been noted that workers traveling home on afternoon and evening trains take one or two loaves of bread along. Although one or two loaves seem a trifling matter, 25 workers, each with two loaves, carry a total of a quintal of bread. Many quintals of bread have often been taken on a single train from the cities to the villages. This bread is given to kulaks, speculators, and neighbors, to people who have already been caught in some misdeal, and therefore no longer dare to hoard openly. These people use the workers as a cat's-paw, and the workers unwittingly supply them with bushels of bread.

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This sinful carelessness and stupidity must come to an end. Actually, the kulaks and speculators are chagrined by the fact that the workers have been enjoying unrationed bread for over a year and will continue to enjoy it, despite the machinations of the enemy.

The farmers and workers cannot tolerate this damage. They must prevent Hungarian bread from winding up in the feeding trough because of their naivete and carelessness.

FODDER SHORTAGE THREATENS SURVIVAL OF LIVESTOCK -- Budapest, Szabad Nep,
2/ Jan 53

The unfavorable weather conditions in 1952, combined with the extension of livestock breeding, have caused a fodder shortage which calls for special precautions if livestock is to survive the winter. Although the animals can be turned out to pasture by the middle of April, the remaining 9-10 weeks will be critical. Consequently, fodder must be carefully rationed, and extra feedings reserved exclusively for cows that give more than 10 liters of milk. The Soviet practices of feeding straw, mixing yeast in the fodder, and cutting, pickling, and mashing fibrous fodder should be applied more extensively.

Basic animal hygiene, such as salting and the feeding of calcium, is neglected in many cases. These conditions make it necessary to arrange for the immediate dissemination of modern feeding practices. Therefore, it is urgent that special meetings be called in all the producers' cooperatives and villages of every megye to acquaint the farmers with these practices and the results already achieved.

The apathy of the councils and party organs is endangering the nation's livestock. These organizations tend to shun those cooperatives which are actually having difficulties; some of them even feel that distributing circulars is sufficient help.

There are relatively few Communists among the livestock breeders. More Communists should make livestock breeding their vocation and put an end to the loss of animals which is occurring today, chiefly for lack of proper care and feeding.

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